(b) if so, the number of such buses with DTC; and

(c) how they are being utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Conversion of Guntur-Macherla MG to BG

1517. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in respect of (i) conversion of Guntur-Macherla Meter Gauge line into Broad Gauge line and (ii) Telapur-Patancherun new BG line and by what time the same will be completed; and

(b) what is the total estimate cost of the said projects?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Progress and estimated costs of the two projects are as under:—

S. No.	Project	Estimated cost	Progress Rs. crores
1	Guntur-Macherla; conversion of MG line into BG. . . .	60.07	40%
2	Telapur-Patancheru new BG line.	7 00	40%

S. No. 1 is being progressed on priority and is expected to be completed during 1990, subject to availability of funds. Further progress on S. No. 2 has been affected by the prevailing resource constraints. As such, no forecast can be made about the likely time of its completion.

Survey of Railway Lines in A.P.

1518. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether new Railway lines *viz.* (i) new BG line between Patancheru to Peddapalli (ii) new BG line from Nadyal to Yerraguntla (iii) new BG line from Nizamabad to Ramagundam and (iv) new BG line from Niduprolu to Nizampatnani in Andhra Pradesh have been surveyed; and

(b) if so, by what time the above four projects would be taken for execution?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Construction of these new lines is not programmed at present.

Air Taxi Service in the Country

1519. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1237 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th November 1987 and state:

(a) whether a final decision about starting air taxi service in the country has been taken by Government;

(b) if so, whether it will be a state owned project or the private parties are to be permitted to operate them; and

(c) what are the routes on which these air taxis are likely to be permitted to operate?